



Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology, Inc.

222 Pitkin Street – Suite 101
East Hartford, CT 06108
Phone (860) 291-8832
Fax (860) 291-8874

Testimony of

Elliot A. Ginsberg

President and Chief Executive Officer

Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology, Inc.

Before the

Commerce Committee

March 1, 2016

Regarding House Bill 5423

An Act Encouraging Middle School and High School Students to Consider Careers in Manufacturing



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To: Senator Hartley, Representative Perone, Senator Frantz, Representative Camillo and members of the Committee

My name is Elliot Ginsberg and I am CEO of the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology. I am here today to support House Bill 5423 **An Act Encouraging Middle School and High School Students to Consider Careers in Manufacturing**. Creating and reinforcing the pipeline in order to provide the manufacturing workforce of the future is without question, a necessary component to assuring the growth of the manufacturing sector in Connecticut. As the administrators of the Connecticut Dream It Do It program over the past years, we have seen the significant and substantial difference that has been made by exposing students, particularly middle school students to the wonders of manufacturing. As an example, we have seen full enrollment in this curriculum throughout the technical high school system. In addition, we have also seen the growth in numerous communities through their Boards of Education and Superintendents to explore the opportunities to provide students with the exposure to manufacturing careers. This focus on promoting the exposure of students is a priority to the manufacturing sector – the employers who will be looking to hire in the future. We have seen the value of these programs – the metric results are strong.

As I have indicated this is a good, worthwhile and important bill. I would, however, suggest a few minor adjustments that I believe would strengthen and clarify the intent of the bill going forward.

- In line 8 I would add the Connecticut technical high school system and
- In line 10 the Connecticut independent colleges with relevant programs
- In line 35 after the words “careers in manufacturing” add the words “in cooperation with the statewide Connecticut Dream It. Do It initiative.”

Thank you for your consideration of my remarks. I would be happy to answer any questions.